THE PORT AUTHORITY of NY & NJ

Memorandum

To: Nelson Chanfrau
From: David Warren
Date: December 27, 1994
Subject: WTC - Fire Incident of 12/23/94
Ref:

Copy To: G. Cummiskey, F. Dalton, R. Earle

As requested, Frank Dalton investigated the fire incident at 2 WTC that occurred on December 23, 1994. The fire was located on the outside stairway between 2 WTC and the VISTA Hotel, down at the Liberty Street level. It was originally reported as a rubbish fire, but after further investigation, containers of flammable liquid were uncovered at the scene. The fire department labeled the fire to be of suspicious origin.

The fire was first detected by a duct smoke detector in air handling unit ACR 712 and area smoke detector CS 713 in the 7th floor MER at 2115 hours. FDNY was notified immediately. The fire was officially extinguished at 2145 hours, at which time FDNY ordered that the building's smoke purge system be activated. The amount of smoke infiltrating the building is not known but an unusual odor in the mezzanine area was still noticeable today.

Since the area has been cleaned, we do not have any information regarding the source of fuel involved in the incident. The fire was severe enough to ignite the exterior aluminum skin and involve wooden framing behind it. The fire was prevented from further progress due to insulation and firestopping.

I am waiting to receive a copy of the PA Police Fire Incident Report. A report will be available from FDNY in 10 to 12 days.

David Warren
Senior Fire Protection Engineer
Risk Management